Eastern region and between the Brahmaputra valley and the Chindwin river oi Burma.

(b) and (c) The questions do not arise.

Request for setting up of separate agency for manganese nodules

2205. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received any request irom the Directoi of Regional Laboratory, Bhubaneswai lor setting up a separate agency for mining polymetallic manganese nodules in the Indian Ocean, as reported in the Times of India of 19th July, 1986;

(b) if so, what has been the response of Government thereto; and

(c) whether similar proposals fox ocean mining have been received from Gujarat and or any other States also-, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELETCRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. No proposal has been received for ocean mining from any State.

Establishment of a township for scientists and research scholars

2206. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased ;o state:

(a) whether Government are eonsi-lering a proposal to establish a township with all modern amenities and nfrastructure like those in techno-ogically advanced countries, to faci-itate Indian scientists and research icholars working at home and abroad f so, what are the details thereof.

including selection of location for suca township;

(b) whether Gujarat or any othei State Government has offered land and other facilities for establishment of such a township if so, what are tha details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have also received any such proposal from tha private sector to establish such a facility from the funds allotted by them for research and development; if so, what has been the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN 1HE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): "(a) No, Sir. There is no proposal under Government's consideration for the establishment of such a township. However, Department of Electronics have approved setting up of there technology parks by NRIs for hundred percent export of -software. These are:—

(1)' Indo American Capital and Technology Cooperation (ICAT) USA at Pune(Maharashtra.

(2) Indus Technology Incorporated USA at Kotagiri, Tamil Nadu, and

(3) Indus Technology incorpo rated USA at Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Government have not received any such proposal.

Capabilities of Indian Satellites to identify undersoil water currents

2207. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the satellites launched by India are capable of carrying out detailed geological surveys and to precisely identify the locations ot undersoil water currenti; if «o, whe-

ther this information is made available to State Governments to enabl& them to effectively attend o the scheme of maKing potable water available to every single village;

(b) if not, whether Government art considering to hire powerful satellites from advanced countries to get dati for undersoil water resources; if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have received requests from Gujarat and/oi any other State Governments for making such data available, in view of tht, acute scarcity of potable water in many areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IR THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DE-PARTMENTS OF OCEAN DDEVELOP-MENT, ATOMIC ENERGY. ELECTRO-NICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Remote Sensina Satellites are capable of providing multispectral, multitemporal data fot large areas. The Multispectral data offers information on various natural resources. So far, India has not launched any operational satellite for resources survey, However experiment-tal Indian Satellites Bhaskara-I & IJ for remote sensing were launched in June, 1979 and November, 1981 respectively. The "Bhaskara" payloads pro vided coarse resolution images. These images were studied in collaboration with various users. It has been found that these data products are useful *U* the extent of demarcating differen! geological units at broad levels.

The first near-operational Indian Remote Sensing Satellite, IRS-IA, is planned for launch during 1987. DOS,' ISRO in collaboration with State Government and Central Government Usei Departmsnts has undertaken 16 application projects involving nearly 30C scientists. This is a preparatory exercise for keeping the Indian users ir readfnass for the optimum use of the data from the forthcoming Indian Remote Renting Satellite

Even while Government of India is planning *to* launch the IRS, Indian Scientists have acquired enough skills for using satellite data for various resources studies taking advantage ot the data currently available from satellites launched by other countries

Since 1980, India is receiving satellite data from Landsat series (USA). The Indian Landsat Earth Station (ILES) located at Hyderabad is functioning under the National Remote Sensing Agency of Department of Space. Presently, we are receiving data from Lands at 4&5. Several studies related to Ground Water Resources are carried out by the Department of Space in close cooperation with the user agency. The satellite imager} has been used for delineating various geologic/geomorphic units which arc indicative of occurrence of ground water. Ground water potential maps have been prepared for the majoi parts of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat anc Rajasthan. These maps are useful fo: narrowing down the target area fo: de[f] ailed ground water exploratioi work/effort. Recently Government o India has signed an agreement wit! the French Government for receivin images from the SPOT satellite. Thes images will also be used for variou resources studies. Hence, there is n particular need for hiring any add tional satellite.

(c) Yes, Sir. Department of Spao at the instance of the State Goven ments, has prepared ground watf potential maps of 1:250,000 scale f< drought prone districts of Gujara Maharashtra, Karnataka and Raja than using high resolution' Lands Thematic Mapper data using visu interpretation technique. These ma] have been prepared in a short sps of time in collaboration with Sta user departments. The Ground Wat potential zone maps of the State i Maharashtra. Gujarat and Rajasths have been handed over to the coi cerned authorities. The map in re pect of Karnataka is being submi ted shortly. These maps are in \ii by tb* respective State ground wat<

departments for further detailed exploration work.

In addition, many Central Government and State Government Departments such as Central Ground Watei Board and State Ground Water Departments are capable of carrying out such studies using remote sensing techniques.

Transfer $_0$f Helicopter units from the Air Force to the Army

2208. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER b_e pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to transfer some helicopter units from the Air Force to the Army; if so, what are the reasons therefor and what functions are likely to be assign-id to them; and

(b) whether the Navy is also likely to have a sort of mini air force; if so, whether it is likely to be equippetf with aircraft carriers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) The Ait Observation Post helicopters, which Government has decided to integrate with the Army, have always been flown by Army Officers lor purely Army tasks. Transfer of these heh copter units to the Army would streamline their operations and permit quicker reaction time during hostilities. The Air Observation Post helicopter units would continue to perform their present functions.

(b) The Navy is already equippeo with aircraft carriers from which fix ed wing and rotary wing aircraft are deployed. Naval assets also include rotary wing aircraft deployed from ships and land basis and fixed wing maritime reconnaissance aircraft based on the land.

Increase in drug peddling and addiction

2209. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) wheher any study is being made by Government to assess the alarming increase in drug peddling and addic< tion in the country;

(by what steps have been taken by Government to stop this menace especially among college students- and

(c) whether Government have anj proposal under its consideration ta amend the Indian Narcotics Act to enforce strict vigilance and awarding of deterrent punishment to drug ped-dlars and drug users?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) A study of the drug abuse situation amongst students in four metropolitan cities and five other towns of the country was commissioned in 1985. The results of this study are stili awaited. A variety of educational ana preventive measures are being taken by the Ministry of Welfare to counteract the problem of drug abuse among the people including students.

(c) The Narcotic Drugs and Psycho, trophic Substances Act, 1985 was recent ly enacted and enforced w.e.t. 14-11-85. There is no proposal with the Government to amend the said Act at present. The Act provides foi deterrent penalties for drug-traffick-ing/peddling.

Arrest without warrant of an office of Punjab and Sind Bank of Chandigarh

2210. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that on 7th June, 1986 one Mr. Labh Singh, an officer of Punjab and Sind Bank's Regional Office, Haryana, was